



2013 Deer Trustee Report

Public Action Team Implementation Proposal

1 of 2

Action Team: Science & Research	Harvest Data, Herd Health & Productivity – E.1.
<input type="checkbox"/> Draft <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Submitted	Deer Trustee Report Page 59

This document shows the original Deer Trustee Report recommendation that the Public Action Team considered when developing proposals for implementing the recommendation in Wisconsin. The Public Action Team's implementation proposal is presented then followed by additional background information.

I. ORIGINAL DEER TRUSTEE REPORT RECOMMENDATION

Involving the public in data collection produces many benefits, including buy-in on management and harvest strategies and cost-efficiencies of data collection.

II. PUBLIC ACTION TEAM PROPOSAL FOR IMPLEMENTING THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATION

Below is the Public Action Team implementation proposal along with their rationale and supporting evidence, potential implementation obstacles and consideration of the proposal's potential impact on the overall deer management in Wisconsin.

1. Action Team Implementation Proposal:

- We agree with the recommendation. Encouraging public involvement has been a theme throughout the discussion.
 - Ensure public involvement is centered on rigorous and standardized methods.
 - Use pilot studies to develop and test public-based citizen-science data collection methods
 - Ensure a level of competence achieved by public volunteers
 - Make volunteer 'teams' to add structure
 - Research how other states use citizen science, with emphasis on encouraging citizens to join and retaining their participation
 - Partner with local conservation and other outdoor clubs to solicit and organize volunteers
 - Ensure methods are user-friendly
 - Low-cost, easy to join (e.g. online training)

2. Supporting data, references, rationale and other information behind it.

- These steps will increase citizen buy-in.
- Research projects have been very successful in getting citizens involved
 - For example the buck mortality and fawn survival studies
 - Carnivore snow-track surveys

3. Consider and describe potential implementation obstacles or drawbacks.

- If not done properly, data is poor
- Observer bias
- Must learn from successes and failures of citizen involvement



Public Action Team Implementation Proposal

4. Overall, how will this proposal simplify or complicate deer hunting, management, or research in Wisconsin.

- Increased buy-in will make hunters happier, thus reducing conflict with agency
- Adding new data streams will add more complexity and work
- By increasing the credibility of research projects and obtaining better buy-in from hunters, get better acceptance of results of projects and could increase desire by the public to fund future studies